

91 mounting a printed circuit onto a surface of the metallic substrate adjacent to the gutter;

positioning a screening cover having an edge including a tab so that the tab rests substantially within the gutter;

crimping the metallic substrate to secure the tab of the screening cover onto the substrate, whereby the cover may be positioned to electromagnetically screen the printed circuit.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 4, 5, and 7 are pending in the instant application. Independent claim 4 has been amended. No new subject matter has been added.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 4, 5, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Gerrits et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,058,018 ("Gerrits").

Applicants respectfully submit that Gerrits discloses an electronic card which includes a printed circuit board interposed between two card shields having edges. Tabs 9 on an edge of the top card shield 7 engage recesses 10 on an edge of the bottom card shield 8. FIG. 1 (Gerrits). Thus, in order to secure the printed circuit board between the card shields the tabs are engaged into their respective recesses and latched in place by mechanical engagement. Col. 3, lines 29-39 (Gerrits).

In the rejection, the Examiner has taken the position that Gerrits discloses all the limitations of claims 4, 5, and 7. Specifically, the Examiner states that the limitation "crimping the edge of the screening cover onto the substrate..." is taught by Gerrits at column 3, lines 3-10.

In comparing the present invention with Gerrits it is readily apparent that Gerrits does not

disclose a method of crimping the edge of the screening cover onto the substrate. As used in the present invention, the term “crimping” means to secure an edge of the screening cover to the substrate by “pinching or pressing together.” See “crimp” in Webster’s Third New International Dictionary (1993). Gerrits does not disclose “crimping,” rather it discloses aligning a bent edge portion 12 of the bottom shield 8 with the printed circuit board and securing one end of the printed circuit board 13 with the top and bottom shields.

Assuming *arguendo*, that the edge of the screening cover extended by tab 5 in the present invention corresponds, at best, to the edge 12 found in Gerrits, “crimping” as defined in the present invention is not performed by Gerrits because what is “crimped” in the present invention is the substrate 1 not the top and bottom shields. However, to the extent that it is not clear from the claim as pending we have amended independent claim 4 to recite a method of producing an assembly, the method comprising, *inter alia*, “crimping the [edge] metallic substrate to secure the tab of the screening cover onto the substrate, whereby the cover may be positioned to electromagnetically screen the printed circuit.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the invention as recited in independent claim 4 is neither taught nor suggested by Gerrits.

The dependent claims, as they depend from independent claim 4, are also believed patentable for at least similar reasons as discussed above. However, Applicants reserve the right to address the individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary and appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections are hereby overcome or otherwise rendered moot, placing this application in condition for allowance.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of

this application, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

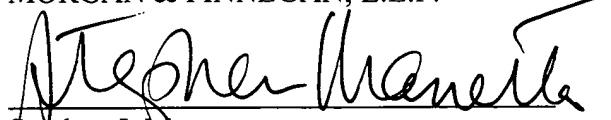
AUTHORIZATION

Applicants believe this Amendment is filed timely and that no extension of time is required. However, should an extension of time be necessary, Applicants respectfully petition that such extension be granted. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1948-4631.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: August 8, 2002

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APPENDIXVERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) A method of producing an assembly comprising a printed-circuit electronics card mounted on a metal substrate with a metal screening cover electrically connected to the substrate, the method comprising:

forming a gutter on a metallic substrate by stamping;

mounting a printed circuit onto a surface of the metallic substrate adjacent to the gutter;

positioning a screening cover having an edge including a tab so that the tab rests substantially within the gutter;

crimping the [edge] metallic substrate to secure the tab of the screening cover onto the substrate, whereby the cover may be positioned to electromagnetically screen the printed circuit.